

FACT SHEET

Update: **5/27/06**

GILA NATIONAL FOREST – Fire Update
Fire Info: 505-388-8245/505- 538-1426 (cell)
www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila



Wildland Fire Use – All fires were lightning-caused.

Wildland Fire Use is the management of naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined geographic areas outlined in Fire Management Plans.

Taylor Fire: Black Range Ranger District, detected on **5/15/06**, located 48 miles west of Truth or Consequences, NM. Current size is **518** acres. The fire is not expected to have any further significant growth. There is no reported fire activity on the perimeter that will affect the current size of the fire, however, some interior burning continues. Daily monitoring of the fire will continue. For specific information about the Taylor Fire, call 505-894-6677.

Plaza Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on **5/15/06**, located 3 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size is **one-tenth of an acre**. No new fire growth reported. Monitoring activities continue. For specific information about the Plaza Fire, call 505-533-6231.

Saliz Fire: Reserve Ranger District, detected on **5/15/06**, located 8 miles southeast of Reserve, NM. Current size is **10** acres. Very limited new fire growth. Monitoring activities continue. For specific information about the Saliz Fire, call 505-533-6231.

Wildland fires - lightning-caused.

Wildland Fire: Any non-structure fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland.

Mimbres Fire: Wilderness Ranger District, detected on **5/20/06**, located 19 miles northeast of Mimbres, NM in the Aldo Leopold wilderness. Fire has grown to an estimated size of 5 - 8 acres and exhibiting increased fire behavior. Air Tanker 27 was committed to the fire on Saturday, May 27, as it made several retardant drops during the afternoon. Firefighting resources included: 10 Silver City Hotshots and 3 Wilderness District helitack. A request for an additional 20 person crew was made late Saturday afternoon. For specific information about the Mimbres Fire, call: 505-536-2250.

New Starts: May 27, 2006 – Cause of fires is under investigation.

Signboard Fire: Wilderness Ranger District, detected on **5/27/06**, located 17 miles north of Mimbres, NM, in the Aldo Leopold wilderness. 10 Silver City Hotshots were initially dispatched to the 14 acre fire – additional resources were ordered. Air Tankers 10 and 27 were assigned to the fire to conduct “load and return” operations on the fire during late afternoon on Saturday. The fire is burning in Ponderosa Pine, grass and oak brush. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. For specific information about the Signboard Fire, call: 505-536-2250.

Whitewater Fire: Glenwood Ranger District, detected on **5/27/06**, located 4 miles east of Glenwood, NM. Four firefighting personnel were assigned to the fire and contained it at less than one-quarter acre. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. For specific information about the Whitewater Fire, call: 505-539-2481.

No structures have been threatened by any of the fires. Assigned resources have been successful in carrying out all operations and firefighting tactics on all incidents in a safe and effective manner.

Restrictions

The Gila National Forest is currently in Stage I Fire and Smoking restrictions. Open campfires are limited to designated campgrounds only and smoking is prohibited, except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is cleared of flammable material. The list of campgrounds where campfires are still allowed is listed within the official order 06-248, which is posted on the website at: <http://www2.srs.fs.fed.us/r3/gila/fire/forestclosure.asp>.

For more information about the current fire activity on the Gila National Forest, contact the Information Office at 388-8245 or visit the website at www.fs.fed.us/r3/gila.

Information about all current federal and state land restrictions and closures in New Mexico and Arizona can be found by visiting the website: http://gacc.nifc.gov/swcc/information/firerestrictions/restrictions_closures.htm

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